Ms. Pichardo Global History and Geography ESL

Topic: World War II

Literacy Strategy: Judging Writing

The purpose of this activity is for students to identify and analyze quality writing. Students will have the opportunity to determine what characteristics are necessary in order for writing to be considered sophisticated. This skill, will allow students to assess each other’s writing and give suggestions for improvement.

Task: Students will receive three different reading with various lexile levels. Students have to read each excerpt and determine which writing is the best, okay and worse.

Which reading is the “best”? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Give three qualities and two examples as to why this paragraph is the best

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Which reading is “okay”? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Give three qualities and two examples as to why this paragraph is the best

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Which reading is the “worst”? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Give three qualities and two examples as to why this paragraph is the best

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World War II: America at War Reading #3

**[](http://expertspace.grolier.com/article?id=10003108&uid=10242563&product_id=ngo)**

**On the morning of December 7, 1941, Japanese planes bombed Pearl Harbor in Hawaii.** The United States was immediately drawn into World War II.

World War II had already been raging in Europe for more than two years. And in Asia, Japan had invaded China in 1937. Most Americans had wanted to stay out of the war. More than 120,000 Americans had died in World War I; few people wanted to repeat that experience. But German and Japanese aggression made them rethink. Pearl Harbor finally changed their minds. The Japanese attack united Americans as never before. They rallied to fight the Axis powers—Germany, Italy, and Japan. These nations wanted to conquer the world. The American people had a new rallying cry: "Remember Pearl Harbor!"

World War II: America at War Reading #1

**[](http://expertspace.grolier.com/article?uid=10242564&id=10003109&product_id=ngo)The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, on December 7, 1941, brought the United States into World War II and also changed the lives of Americans at home.** Millions of people, mostly young men, had to leave their homes and jobs to serve in the military. Ways had to be found to make up for their absence. People's attitudes, lifestyles, and jobs changed in unexpected ways. Some of these changes lasted for the duration of the war and then ended. Others remained in effect long after the war was over.

The horrors and outcome of World War I had disillusioned many Americans. The United States had participated in that war only briefly, yet more than 120,000 Americans had died. Many people believed that U.S. involvement in World War I had been the result of a conspiracy. They blamed British diplomats, Wall Street bankers, and arms manufacturers ("merchants of death"). Moreover, in the 1930s people were facing the harsh economic realities of the Great Depression. Thus as the threat of another war arose in Europe, they hoped to stay out of it. Groups such as the America First Committee opposed U.S. involvement abroad. This large and vocal organization was represented by a famous and popular personality, the flyer Charles Lindbergh. President Franklin D. Roosevelt believed that war was coming anyhow. He did as much as he could to prepare the nation for it. This often required working around the constraints of both public opinion and the neutrality acts. The neutrality acts were laws passed by Congress that were designed to keep the country out of war.

World War II: America at War Reading #2

**[](http://expertspace.grolier.com/article?uid=10242565&id=10003110&product_id=ngo)**

**Far from the battle lines, World War II caused many changes in American life.** The United States had been brought into the war by the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, on December 7, 1941. As a result, millions of people, mostly young men, had to leave their homes and livelihoods to take up arms overseas, and means had to be devised to make up for their absence. People's attitudes, lifestyles, and occupations evolved in new and unexpected ways. Some of these changes lasted for the duration of the war, while others remained in effect long after the war had ended.

The American people were disillusioned by the horrors and outcome of [World War I](http://expertspace.grolier.com/a2032090-h). More than 120,000 Americans had died during the United States' brief participation in that war. By the mid-1930s many people believed that U.S. involvement in World War I had been the result of a conspiracy of British diplomats, Wall Street bankers, and arms manufacturers ("merchants of death"). Moreover, in the 1930s people were facing the harsh economic realities of the [Great Depression](http://expertspace.grolier.com/a2041569-h). Thus they yearned for neutrality as the threat of another war loomed in Europe toward the end of the decade. American involvement abroad was opposed by groups such as the America First Committee. The famed aviator Charles [Lindbergh](http://expertspace.grolier.com/a2017310-h) was the most prominent spokesperson of this large and vocal organization. President Franklin D. [Roosevelt](http://expertspace.grolier.com/a2025680-h), working around the constraints of both public opinion and a series of neutrality acts passed by Congress, did as much as he could to prepare the nation for war.